

BRIARCLIFF MANOR UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

POLICY	NO. 7420 – STUDENTS	
	Date Adopted by Board	1992
	Date(s) Reviewed/Modified by Board	08/27/2007 11/18/2013

Subject: Athletic Policy

Athletics are an integral and desirable part of a well-balanced secondary school educational program. A broad sports program with equal access and kind for both males and females, and an emphasis on maximizing participation, is the clear objective of the district. In addition; the district recognizes the important role athletic participation can play in the social and emotional development of adolescents and teens. The interscholastic athletics program shall conform to the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education as well as the established rules of the New York State Public High School Athletic Association and the State Education Department. Eligibility for interscholastic athletic competition shall include:

1. Written parental/guardian consent
2. A satisfactory medical examination administered by the school physician/nurse practitioner or the student's personal physician. The school physician retains final approval on all physicals performed by the student's personal physician; and
3. Compliance with all requirements for interscholastic competition as set forth by the Commissioner's Regulations, the New York State Public High School Athletic Association and the State Education Department.

Selection/Classification Process

The Board approves the use of the selection/classification process for [seventh and eighth grade students demonstrate exceptional athletic ability and](#) who wish to participate on high school interscholastic teams. The Board directs the Superintendent to develop the procedures to implement the selection/classification process. The Superintendent shall maintain a file of those students deemed eligible as a result of those procedures.

Student Athletic Injuries

Although the district will take reasonable care to protect student athletes, a student may still sustain injuries. In order to effectively ensure student safety, no student (shall) be allowed to practice or play in an athletic contest if he/she is suffering from an injury which requires medical clearance. Parents and/or students are expected to report injuries to the team coach. In order to resume participation in athletics following an injury which required a physician's medical attention, a student needs to receive medical clearance from the school district's physician.

Cross-Ref: Concussion Management

BRIARCLIFF MANOR UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

POLICY	NO. 7420R – STUDENTS	
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Regulations – Selection/Classification Process for Interscholastic Athletics

The New York State Education Department and the Briarcliff Manor Union Free School district participate in an athletic advancement program known as Selection Classification. This is a formal process by which students in 8th grade can become eligible to participate on high school teams despite the fact they have not yet reached the 9th grade eligibility requirement. The process is designed and intended for exceptional, unusually gifted or elite student athletes. Experience in programs and on teams outside of school does not necessarily correlate with exceptionalism. In the case of middle school student athletes, it is the Briarcliff Athletic Department's firm belief that participation in the modified program is an essential component in the physical, social, and emotional development of adolescent athletes. Parents should consider all aspects of a sport prior to pursuing eligibility in a high school athletic program. In addition to skill and physical maturity, the Athletic Director and team coaches will consider a student's emotional preparedness to participate at the high school level when considering placement of a student on such a team.

Students in grades no lower than 8th may compete on a high school team. Participating students shall be eligible to compete during five consecutive seasons of each sport after their entry into eighth grade.

Only those students who do not meet the normal age and grade criteria to play junior varsity and/or varsity sports need to meet the Selection/Classification Standard.

Accurate school files must be kept on each student enrolled in the Selection/Classification Process. The Athletic Director will inform opponents of any students participating on a team who were selected through the selection/classification process.

Seventh & Eighth Graders

Students at the 7 & 8th grade level who meet the maturity and physical fitness standards for selection/classification will be eligible to participate in freshman and junior varsity interscholastic competition. Only 8th grade students will be eligible to participate on varsity teams. Students may participate in the following manner:

1. Students will be eligible to participate on freshman and junior varsity teams only. However, in the case of swimming, diving, gymnastics, track and field, cross country, and hockey eligible 8th grade students may petition the Athletic Department for participation at the varsity level.

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2. Students must request permission in writing from the Director of Athletics to participate on a high school team prior to the beginning of the season in which the student is request to play.

4. The student must qualify as possessing exceptional athletic ability as determined by the Director of Athletics in consultation with related School District coaches and Physical Education teacher(s).

2.3. A special parental permission slip will be required for all 7th 8th grade students who wish to play on high school teams.

3.4. The Athletic Director will review this regulation with his or her staff on an annual basis by July 1st of each year.

4.5. Given equal physical ability to contribute to a team, coaches will give priority to allowing high school students to participate on high school teams over middle school students.

Section/Classification Process

The intent of the selection/classification program is to provide safe and suitable participation at an appropriate level of competition for students in 7th & 8th grade.

The section/classification process shall not be used to promote students to higher levels of competition on a routine basis or for the sole purpose of filling positions on high school teams. Proper placement of each student is important and due consideration will be granted applicants throughout the process.

The process begins with a maturity screening (Tanner Scale) conducted by the school Nurse's Office. Students deemed to be physically mature enough to play on a freshmen, junior varsity or varsity team will then be permitted to take the Selection Classification Exam.

The Athletic Performance and Development Standards included in the Classification Exam will be administered by the school Athletic Department, in accordance with New York State guidelines. Such assessments will be conducted by certified Physical Education teachers. Each component of the assessment will be initialed by the administering teacher and all final examination scores will be reviewed by the Athletic Director. The Executive Director of Section I will be informed of all students passing the exam. This Selection Classification Exam will be administered at least once per athletic season. In cases were a conflict of interest may exists on the part of a coach, a review of placement on a high school team will be conducted by the Athletic Director in consultation with building administration.

All records of testing and evaluation will be filed in the Athletic Director's office.